

America has been crystal clear about what the consequences would be for this kind of end run around negotiated peace between Israel and the Palestinians seeking their own nation. This action by UNESCO emboldens the fraudulent Palestinian bid for recognition without the Palestinians immediately recognizing Israel's right to exist as a Jewish nation-state or even denouncing their stated goal of Israel's destruction.

The United States had no choice but to refuse to make a scheduled \$60 million transfer to UNESCO. That \$60 million should be used to pay down our Federal debt instead of to support an organization committed to thwarting peace in the Middle East.

FLIGHT 3407 EMAILS

(Ms. HOCHUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HOCHUL. On a cold, snowy night in February 2009, the lives of hundreds of people in my district were shattered. The cruel irony of 50 loved ones killed in a plane crash the Friday before Valentine's Day weekend is lost on no one in my district, near Buffalo, which is exactly where the Colgan Flight 3407 plane crash occurred.

The families began a quest for answers—hearings on Capitol Hill and NTSB investigations. Finally, we thought we had the answers. Yet it wasn't until a lawsuit was filed in Federal court in Buffalo and through the perseverance of a Buffalo news reporter that they finally announced that the company never gave critical emails regarding the inability of this pilot to fly this plane. Those emails were never revealed until now.

That's why I teamed up with our local delegation—Congresswoman SLAUGHTER, Congressmen HIGGINS and REED, and Senators SCHUMER and GILLIBRAND—to call for a Federal investigation by the United States Attorney General into what this company knew and when they knew it. Whether they possessed critical emails at the right time, whether they gave them to us, whether there were other emails that would shed light as to what happened on that night, the families deserve to know; western New Yorkers need to know; and America needs to know.

IN HONOR OF OTTERBOX

(Mr. GARDNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the charitable contributions and achievements of OtterBox, a business located in Fort Collins, Colorado.

This business manufactures and develops coverings for tech products, like cell phones and iPads, and it employs 350 people in my congressional district. Aside from their great products and in-

novation, OtterBox received national recognition by being named an honoree for National Philanthropy Day in Colorado.

Last year OtterBox created a new wing to their business, one devoted to altruistic values to help the surrounding community. This wing was appropriately named OtterCares. OtterCares has participated in many service projects, like providing school supplies to low-income children and by donating 600 toys to less fortunate families during the holiday season. Their work also includes volunteering at local food banks, youth centers, and animal sanctuaries.

In addition, the company gave all 350 employees a \$200 grant to give to a charity or foundation of their choosing. The \$200 was just a start. They encourage their employees to raise and donate more. To this day, OtterBox has raised over \$74,000 for 70 different organizations.

The business utilizes this slogan: "Throw a stone in the water, and watch how far the ripple can spread."

The ripple started by OtterBox is helping the entire Fort Collins area. It is with great pride that I recognize OtterBox on the House floor.

□ 1210

REBUILDING THE AMERICAN DREAM

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, with less than 2 months left in 2011, this Republican-controlled House has yet to focus on the top issues facing our country: creating jobs, growing our economy, and rebuilding the American Dream. Back home in St. Louis, I have seen firsthand how businesses, families, seniors, and students are frustrated and suffering because of inaction, obstruction, and political games in this Congress.

Last week I met with business owners in my home State, including a commercial and residential plumbing company in St. Louis. That business is suffering from the terrible housing market and poor economy. It's our responsibility to work to help our constituents who have built businesses that have been hard-hit by these tough times.

The President has proposed the American Jobs Act which would help put people back to work. And independent economists say this bill would help create more than 1 million jobs. It's time for action. We cannot retreat to our ideological corners and ignore the challenges that we face. I will work with anyone, anywhere, anytime to grow the economy and help create jobs. I challenge my colleagues to work with that same spirit. It's time we pull together and put our country first.

ARNOLD DE LA PAZ

(Mr. FARENTHOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARENTHOLD. This year Mr. Arnold De La Paz, the founder and president of DLP Group, Inc., in Corpus Christi, was named the Small Business Association's Lower Rio Grande Valley District Minority Small Businessperson of the Year.

Mr. De La Paz is a service-disabled veteran who started his career with a small painting company and eventually, through hard work and dedication, founded the DLP Group, which is now one of the largest paint manufacturers in America. Mr. De La Paz is one of many small business owners that work every day to live and realize the American Dream. We must continue to foster an environment where job creators like Mr. De La Paz can succeed. We can do that here in Washington by simplifying the Tax Code, reducing government regulation, and getting the Federal budget under control.

I think Mr. De La Paz summed it up well when he said, "Our Nation has always been about the urge to dream and the will to enable it." Mr. De La Paz is an example to other small business owners. His contributions as a job creator who has worked tirelessly to put Americans back to work is what this country is based upon.

VETERANS' TUITION

(Mr. MCINTYRE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day and are ever thankful for the veterans and servicemen and -women who have made our country great, I rise to pay tribute to Sergeant Jason Thigpen of Wilmington, North Carolina, who is here with us today. After his service in Iraq, Jason started the Student Veterans Advocacy Group at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington to support student veterans and dependents seeking a college education.

Jason, who is a Purple Heart medal recipient, has shared with me and others here on Capitol Hill his concerns that the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act disallows out-of-state students to receive in-state tuition at public universities, thus making it cost-prohibitive for them to attend these public universities, even though they otherwise qualify. I am certain that my colleagues here would agree that our returning veterans who are pursuing an education under the GI Bill should not have to worry about whether it's in-state versus out-of-state tuition. These courageous individuals have been at the forefront defending our freedoms and our values. They should not be denied their opportunity to pursue an education. Let's support our student veterans.

JOBS CAN'T GROW WHEN CASH FLOW SLOWS

(Mr. CRAWFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a topic that concerns most Americans at this time, and that's jobs. The House has opposed the administration when they have proposed hitting job creators with new taxes or more regulatory burdens. So far this year, the House has passed a total of 17 job-creating bills. This week, the House will vote on two jobs bills that will enable small businesses and entrepreneurs to access more capital to create more jobs. Jobs can't grow when the cash doesn't flow. Smarter regulation and fewer roadblocks to capital will help job creators put more Americans back to work.

We in Congress have the responsibility to give entrepreneurs and small business owners the business environment they need to unleash America's economic potential. That's what we were sent here to do, and that's what our constituents deserve.

ASSISTANCE FOR OUR VETERANS

(Mr. CLARKE of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, earlier this morning, I spoke on how glad I was that the Representative from Michigan's First District was able to take a tour of the city of Detroit and visit Mercy Primary Care Center. But when I visited that center, I was also appalled. I was appalled by what I saw and what I heard—that our veterans from metro Detroit, our veterans, young men and women who risked their lives, their physical and mental health for our country, who went overseas and came back home to face only no prospect of employment, no income to even provide them with decent shelter, little access to mental health and substance abuse treatment. So as a result, folks that we should be revering as heroes ended up on the streets of Detroit, living like animals. No one deserves to live that way in this country.

So right now, I'm asking this Congress, instead of just focusing on cutting everything and cutting programs and funding initiatives, let's help put people back to work. Let's provide them with mental health and substance abuse treatment and give them the dignity that every American deserves.

FLOOD PROTECTION FOR THE MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

(Mr. BERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERG. Mr. Speaker, North Dakota has experienced devastating and

unprecedented flooding this year. To provide additional flood control storage, our State requested that the Corps lower the water levels in Lake Sakakawea. This could help prevent a repeat of this year's flooding. Last night, the Corps denied our State's request. I strongly disagree with this decision.

The people of North Dakota are more than just frustrated. They have lost so much to flooding, and they deserve more say in the Corps management of the water levels. I have called on the Corps to testify before Congress on what went wrong this last spring, and I will continue to press for an honest conversation about the Missouri River Basin's flood protection. The Corps should do everything within its power to prevent another devastating flood next spring. Unfortunately, this recent decision suggests that the Corps is continuing forward with the same management plan that failed so badly this spring. Things need to change now before the people of North Dakota and other Missouri River States are faced with another devastating loss.

FINDING COMMON GROUND

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, this week at the University of Louisville's McConnell Center, the Speaker of the House gave a speech on the need to find common ground, but without compromise. We've been testing the wisdom of this approach all this year. Here's what we've gotten: stalemate, manufactured crises, and an inability to act on behalf of the American people.

In a government as polarized as this, insisting on common ground while refusing to compromise is maybe the best way to guarantee that 90 percent of our Nation's problems go unsolved. Not coincidentally, that's the same percentage of Americans who disapprove of this Congress and its ongoing search for a hidden, preexisting common ground.

I encourage the Speaker to hear the people out on this. They know the solutions which we've already agreed are the easy ones, and they didn't elect us to make easy decisions. They elected us to solve difficult problems. In other words, to lead. Real leaders don't just look for common ground. They create it. Our country was formed through compromise and has been strengthened by it for more than 200 years. Until Republicans provide leadership that values results over ideology and economic progress over antitax pledges, this Congress will continue to fail America.

REPUBLICAN NO-JOBS AGENDA

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, it has been 43 weeks since Republicans took con-

trol of the House, and we have had 817 recorded votes, yet they have failed to pass a single bill to create jobs. In turn, they have actually voted against, blocked, or ignored an array of job-creating proposals, including the American Jobs Act as well as segments of the American Jobs Act.

There are 14 million Americans out of work that are counting on Congress to pass legislation that creates jobs and improves the American economy. The American Jobs Act will create and preserve jobs now, put money back into the pockets of working Americans now, and give businesses job-creating tax breaks now. Unfortunately, the majority is continuing a no-jobs agenda by refusing to hold a vote on the American Jobs Act. The House majority will not even follow the Senate's lead by bringing job-creating components of the bill, like the provision that preserves jobs for teachers and first responders, up for a vote. Mr. Speaker, we must act now to establish confidence in our economy, and the American Jobs Act is one way to achieve that goal.

□ 1220

LATINO VETERANS

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of World War II and to commemorate the service of Hispanic Americans who served in World War II and in all wars, and to commemorate our Latino veterans across America.

During World War II, 500,000 Americans of Hispanic ancestry courageously answered our Nation's call, including Latinos such as Ted Williams, Manuel Ortiz, Maria Dolores Hernandez, Jose Limon, Desi Arnaz, Cesar Chavez, and Guy Gabaldon.

The Hispanic American soldiers fought with integrity and bravery, earning 126 Distinguished Service Crosses, over 1,400 Silver Stars, and 2,807 Bronze Stars for valor. They earned these medals sacrificing their lives and blood to preserve the United States and freedom around the world. Through the war, over 12,000 Latinos were awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat; 2,561 Latinos were prisoners of war; and 9,831 Latinos were killed in action.

Because of their record of service, Mr. Speaker, I introduced H. Res. 404, which recognizes the service and the sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are Latino; and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

I wish to remember these war heroes and the stalwart and selfless service of Latinos in military history 70 years after World War II.